

# CIPRIANI & WERNER

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HILARY HIGGINS  
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February 17, 2023

**Via E-Mail (IDTheft@oag.state.md.us)**

Office of the Attorney General  
200 St. Paul Place  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

To Whom It May Concern:

We serve as counsel for Anthony-Thomas Candy Company ("Anthony-Thomas"), located at 1777 Arlingate Lane, Columbus, OH 43228, and provide this notification to you of a recent data security incident suffered by Anthony-Thomas. By providing this notice, Anthony-Thomas does not waive any rights or defenses under Maryland law, including the data breach notification statute.

On or about December 20, 2022, Anthony-Thomas became aware of potential unauthorized access to its website. Upon discovery, Anthony-Thomas immediately secured its systems and conducted an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. On or about January 12, 2023, following a thorough investigation, Anthony-Thomas confirmed that a limited amount of personal information may have been accessed in connection with this incident.

On January 12, 2023, Anthony-Thomas discovered twelve (12) residents of Maryland whose name along with their credit card or debit card number and security access code may have been affected by this incident.

Anthony-Thomas will provide written notice of this incident to the potentially impacted Maryland residents on February 17, 2023, pursuant to Maryland state law. A copy of the notice letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, which provides details of the incident and steps impacted individuals can take to protect their information.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Hilary F. Higgins, Esq.  
CIPRIANI & WERNER, P.C.

## **Exhibit A**

Anthony-Thomas Candy Co  
Return Mail to IDX:  
10300 SW Greenburg Rd. Suite 570  
Portland, OR 97223



<<Name>>  
<<Address 1>>  
<<Address 2>>  
<<City>><<State>><<Zip>>

February 17, 2023

Dear <<Name>>:

We are writing to inform you of a data security incident experienced by Anthony-Thomas Candy Company ("Anthony-Thomas") that may have involved your information as described below. We take the privacy and security of all information very seriously, and while we have no evidence to suggest that any information was subject to actual or attempted misuse as a result of this incident, this letter includes information about the incident and steps you can take to help protect your information.

**What Happened:** On or about December 20, 2022, Anthony-Thomas became aware of potential unauthorized access to its website. Upon discovery, Anthony-Thomas immediately secured its systems and conducted an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. On or about January 12, 2023, following a thorough investigation, Anthony-Thomas confirmed that a limited amount of personal information may have been accessed in connection with this incident. We then began a thorough review of the contents of that data to determine the type of information contained within the files and to whom that information related, including obtaining address information. On January 12, 2023, this process was completed, and we worked to provide you with this notification as soon as possible.

**What Information Was Involved:** The types of information contained within the affected data included your first name or initial and last name, in combination with the following data element(s): credit card number or debit card number in combination with security code or access code.

**What We Are Doing:** We are working to take the steps necessary to address the incident and are committed to fully protecting all of the information that you have entrusted to us. Upon learning of this incident, we immediately took steps to secure our systems and undertook a thorough investigation. We have also implemented additional technical safeguards to further enhance the security of information in our possession and to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

**What You Can Do:** We recommend that you remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your credit reports/account statements for suspicious activity and to detect errors. If you discover any suspicious or unusual activity on your accounts, please promptly contact the financial institution or company. We have provided additional information below, which contains more information about steps you can take to help protect yourself against fraud and identity theft.

**For More Information:** Should you have any questions or concerns, please email us at [consumerrelations@anthony-thomas.com](mailto:consumerrelations@anthony-thomas.com). The security of your information is of the utmost importance to us. We stay committed to protecting your trust in us and continue to be thankful for your support.

Sincerely,

*Doug Wheeler*

Manager of Information Technology

## STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

### Monitor Your Accounts

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your credit reports/account statements and explanation of benefits forms for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Under U.S. law, you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, TransUnion, Experian, and Equifax. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call 1-877-322-8228. Once you receive your credit report, review it for discrepancies and identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting bureau.

You have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, you have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without your express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a credit freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. Address for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (e.g., state driver’s license or identification card); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft, if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a fraud alert or credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TransUnion</b><br>1-800-680-7289<br><a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a><br><b>TransUnion Fraud Alert</b><br>P.O. Box 2000<br>Chester, PA 19016-2000<br><b>TransUnion Credit Freeze</b><br>P.O. Box 160<br>Woodlyn, PA 19094 | <b>Experian</b><br>1-888-397-3742<br><a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a><br><b>Experian Fraud Alert</b><br>P.O. Box 9554<br>Allen, TX 75013<br><b>Experian Credit Freeze</b><br>P.O. Box 9554<br>Allen, TX 75013 | <b>Equifax</b><br>1-888-298-0045<br><a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a><br><b>Equifax Fraud Alert</b><br>P.O. Box 105069<br>Atlanta, GA 30348-5069<br><b>Equifax Credit Freeze</b><br>P.O. Box 105788<br>Atlanta, GA 30348-5788 |
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### Additional Information

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the credit reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), or your state Attorney General. The FTC also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. The FTC may be reached at 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261.

You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement, your state Attorney General, and the FTC. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

*For Maryland residents*, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023; and [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us). Anthony-Thomas may be contacted at 1777 Arlingate Lane, Columbus, OH 43228.

*For New York residents*, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or <https://ag.ny.gov>.

*For North Carolina residents*, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov).